

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal certificate;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of predetermined elements in a ~~hierarchy of~~ a-subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

a determination part that determines an access right of a holder of the personal certificate based on a value of the at least one predetermined element when the personal certificate is successfully verified,

wherein the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a ~~projectan element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the~~ holder of the personal certificate.

2. (Original) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the predetermined elements is an organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A web server computer system comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal certificate;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

a determination part that determines an access right of a holder of the personal certificate based on a value of the at least one predetermined element when the received personal certificate is successfully verified,

wherein the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a project~~an element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A web server computer system comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal certificate;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an allocating part that allocates a session identifier when the received personal certificate is successfully verified;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate;

a determination part that determines an access right of a holder of the personal certificate based on a value of the at least one predetermined element when the received personal certificate is successfully verified; and

a memory part that stores the determined access right associated with the session identifier,

wherein the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a project~~an element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate.~~

6. (Original) The web server computer system according to claim 5, wherein the at least one of the predetermined elements is an organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, ~~which receives a personal certificate in which a predetermined element of a subject name represents an organization to which a holder of the certificate belongs and an attribute other than a personal ID so as to process the subject name,~~ the apparatus comprising:

a receiving part that receives the personal certificate;

an extracting part that extracts a predetermined element in ~~a hierarchy of~~ a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

a determination part that determines an access right at least based on an organization to which a holder belongs and an attribute other than a personal ID represented by a value of the predetermined element,

wherein the predetermined element in ~~a hierarchy of~~ the subject name represents a project purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate.

9. (Original) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 8, wherein the organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents that the holder of the certificate is not a member of an organization represented by the organization name and that the holder cooperates with the organization.

10. (Original) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 8, wherein the organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents a project name in which the holder takes part.

11. (Original) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 8, wherein the organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents a cooperating organization name which cooperates with an organization represented by the organization name and to which the holder belongs.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, comprising the steps of:

receiving a personal certificate;

verifying the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

extracting at least one of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right of a holder of the personal certificate based on a value of the at least one predetermined element when the personal certificate is successfully verified,

wherein the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a project~~an element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, ~~which receives a personal certificate in which a predetermined element of a subject name represents an organization to which a holder of the personal certificate belongs and an attribute other than a personal ID so as to process the subject name,~~ the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the personal certificate;

extracting a predetermined element in ~~a hierarchy of~~ a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right at least based on an organization to which a holder belongs and an attribute other than a personal ID represented by a value of the predetermined element,

wherein the predetermined element in ~~a hierarchy of~~ the subject name represents a project~~purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A storage medium readable by a computer, the storage medium storing a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform a function for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, the function comprising the steps of:

receiving a personal certificate;

verifying the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

extracting at least one of predetermined elements in ~~a hierarchy of~~ a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right of a holder of the personal certificate based on a value the at least one predetermined element when the personal certificate is successfully verified,

wherein the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a project~~an element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A storage medium readable by a computer, the storage medium storing a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform a function for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, ~~which receives a personal certificate in which a predetermined element of a subject name represents an organization to~~

~~which a holder of the personal certificate belongs and an attribute other than a personal ID so as to process the subject name, the function comprising the steps of:~~

receiving the personal certificate;

extracting a predetermined element in a ~~hierarchy of~~ a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right at least based on an organization to which a holder belongs and an attribute other than a personal ID represented by a value of the predetermined element,

wherein the predetermined element in a ~~hierarchy of~~ the subject name represents a ~~project purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate.~~

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal certificate;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

a determination part that determines an access right of a holder of the personal certificate based on a value of the at least one predetermined element when the personal certificate is successfully verified,

wherein the predetermined elements includes an organizational unit name allocated for representing a project name and a common name allocated for representing a purpose of operation of the project.